



ALYSON NÖEL

If there's a teenager in your household, there's a good chance she's heard of Alyson Noël, the prolific OC-based novelist who has captured the voice and imagination of girls in middle school and high school through two bestselling series with supernatural themes. With more than a dozen young adult novels and anthologies to her name, Noël continues to write from the Laguna Niguel home she shares with her husband. Here's a peek at her lifestyle.

AESTHETIC SENSIBILITY OF YOUR HOME Contemporary, global and eclectic. We're drawn to bold pieces with clean lines, and during our travels are always on the lookout for interesting art and artifacts to incorporate into the décor. My husband has an extensive collection of tribal masks he's acquired from

all over the world – so many that they cover the two-story wall in our entryway.

FAVORITE PART OF YOUR HOUSE I'm not that big on formal living rooms – they tend to come off as sort of stiff and unused – like museums of fine furniture. So when we moved into our home about a year ago, we were determined to make the space both usable and fun. We have a zebra sofa, a glass-topped amethyst geode that we use for a coffee table, and we christened it the "Champagne Room." Once a week, usually on a Wednesday, we head in there to toast something good that's happened recently – could be anything from hitting *The New York Times* bestsellers list, to a particularly beautiful sunset – it ensures the room gets used, and when we have guests over, we use it as a starting point, too.

YOUR FAVORITE CHAIR We have two matching overstuffed chaise lounges in our master suite sitting area. They're set before the fireplace, and my husband and I love to sneak up there with a glass of red wine to read in front of the fire.

THE BEST PLACE TO THINK AND WRITE YOUR NOVELS

My office/library – the moment I saw the beautiful built-in bookcases I was sold! We painted the walls a nice, muted purple – my favorite color and one that promotes creativity – and I decorated from scratch, carefully picking pieces that would turn it into a comfortable, feminine place to work, including a Michael Madzo painting I picked up on a recent research trip to Santa Fe. I was stunned by how closely it depicts the new YA series I'm working on, *Soul Seekers*, and his method of stitching pieces of the canvas together reminds me of the storytelling process.

THE LATEST THING YOU BOUGHT FOR YOUR HOUSE Well, it was actually two things – a three-foot tall citrine geode cathedral that's placed in the den, and a George Bucquet peach, opal, ribbed, hot cast glass bowl that sits on the bar.

THE ONE THING YOU CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT IN YOUR HOUSE The view of the canyon – I love watching the hawks that soar through it with the ocean beyond – it's both peaceful and inspiring.

A TYPICAL WORKING DAY AT HOME My husband and I both work at home, so around 7:30 each morning we commute to our offices – his upstairs, mine downstairs – where we catch up on e-mails and get focused for the day. Usually around nine we meet in the kitchen for breakfast, then we head upstairs and work out, maybe take a sauna, shower and then head back to our respective offices again, where we work pretty much non-stop until seven at night.

ON YOUR NIGHTSTAND An oversized lamp that was converted from an antique Chinese urn that my husband inherited from his grandparents, a scented candle and a small stack of books

IF YOUR HOUSE HAD A SIGNATURE SOUNDTRACK, YOU WOULD PLAY Joey Ramone's rendition of "What a Wonderful World" –LISA LIDDANE

LISTEN UP

■ **MEET THE AUTHOR** ■ Alyson Noël will sign and read her latest young adult novel, *Everlasting*, June 14 at 7 p.m. at Barnes & Noble, 791 Main St., Orange. ■ alysonneel.com